Bio for LSR Candidate

For Division 1 Director

Mike Mackey

As a longtime modeler, I procrastinated joining the NMRA until 2013, then quickly found out what I'd been missing. Since then, I've grown to know how important this organization is to cultivate the hobby and helping modelers grow to their highest potential. The relationships that I've made, and the opportunities that I have been afforded through my membership, have truly enriched my life, and for that I'm sincerely grateful.

Based on that, I have embedded myself into this organization as thoroughly and quickly as I could. I served on multiple committees for the 2013 LSR convention, and, as Larry Swigert's assistant, set a new high-level mark for revenues derived from the raffle during that convention. I have also filled additional roles, as needed, on both the 2014, 2015 and 2019 conventions. I was offered and accepted the responsibility of serving as co-chairman for the 2016 convention. With the completion of that event, I can honestly say that I haven't talked to anyone that didn't have a fantastic time at that convention.

Additionally, I have served as regional membership co-chair with Larry Swigert. While Larry carried most of the load in a position that is his passion, I enjoyed helping and assisting with membership drives and recruiting seminars at events around the region. I spearheaded the team responsible for securing the 2023 NMRA National Convention for Dallas/Fort Worth where I am serving as co-chair with Donna Orr. This is the first time that the event has ever been held in DFW and only the second time it's been held in Texas in over 30 years.

I very much enjoy modeling competitions and have been fortunate enough to merit on multiple occasions. Those merit awards have allowed me to complete my MMR certification (#573). I am working actively to receive all 11 of the certificates. In 2017, I received the President's Award for outstanding service to the Lone Star Region.

It is my desire to continue to serve our division as Director, and, for that reason, I would like to request your vote toward re-election as Director for Division 1. We have seen a tremendous swell in involvement since I took office in May of 2017 and I believe that that momentum is going to grow even more! The leadership team that has been assembled is working hard to make Division 1 a leader, not only in our region, but nationally.

In this term, we have: 1) Maintained monthly meetings, 2) Reached an average attendance at our meetings of 35-55, 3) Added new leadership team members as backups for every single position om the leadership team, 4) Helped pioneer online meetings worldwide as part of the COVID pandemic, 5) Helped to promote and been an active part in the establishment of the NMRAx program 6) maintained our membership numbers even in the face of forced virtual meetings.

Serving as a leader in this and other organizations, I have consistently assisted achieving set goals. My resume' includes: being an Eagle Scout, President of the Palestine Jaycees, President of the DFW Marine Aquarium Society, Master Model Railroader, Region Membership Co-Chair, 2016 Convention Chair, Co-Chair of the 2023 National Super Convention and serving on the board of directors of three different model railroad clubs. With your vote, I welcome the opportunity to continue to serve this division, providing strong leadership to the membership during the next term of office.